

From: Ray Casper
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 4:42pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

January 25, 2002

Attorney general John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. ashcroft:

This letter is in support of the settlement with Microsoft. The settlement is in the best interest of the state, the IT industry, and the economy because it will allow us to direct those millions of dollars into other more important cases and programs.

There are many restrictions on Microsoft as a result of this settlement. for instance, Microsoft has agreed to make available to its competitors any protocols implemented in Windows' operating system products that are used to interoperate natively with any Microsoft server operating system. In addition, Microsoft has agreed to license its Windows operating system products to the 20 largest computer makers on identical terms, including price. Plus, Microsoft has agreed not to retaliate against computer makers who ship software that competes with anything in its Windows operating system.

Not only is the settlement fair and seems reasonable, but it also will prevent any future anticompetitive behavior. This project has gone on long enough and the general public wants to end the case and return to business as usual.

Thank you for your attention to this matter as well as the other pressing day to day problems you have handled well during your time as Attorney General.

Sincerely,

H. R. Casper
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